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EXAMINER

PAIK, STEVE S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/973,253

Applicant(s)

MAHONEY ET AL.

Examiner

Steven S. Paik

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 21, 2003 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed July 21, 2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 2, 6-10 and 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sehr (USP 6,085,976).

Regarding claims 1, 6, 7 and 8, Sehr discloses an information processing method (a print job may be considered as one method of processing information) for a user (passenger cardholder) of a printer for access to data (information related to his/her travel) to be printed by said printer (the card station 1 can comprise, for example, a PC-based setting used by passengers from home or at work, a card service station installed as appropriate apparatus in public places, or portable terminal accessed and served via on-line communications means. It is

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inherent that said PC-based setting used by passengers from home or at work, a card service station installed as appropriate apparatus includes a printer to generate a hardcopy of data) in a network (a travel system network connected by a global communication link 1234) having a plurality of printers and a plurality of input devices enabling access to a printer of said plurality of printers (The passenger card 11 can, therefore, input, store, process, output, and display data relating to tickets, passengers, and system entities; as well as to services rendered via the card (see col. 6, ll. 26-31). The aforementioned service inherently may have a print job, which is one of many common output forms of data processed.) comprising:

providing user information at a first location (card station 1) in said network (travel system network) using an input device (such as a keyboard/mouse, pointing device, touch screen, or voice commands) at said first location in said network;

receiving (col. 7, ll. 25-26 discloses the Travel Center (2) provides the computerized means for the selection, payment and issuance of passenger cards; as well as for the storage in the cards of appropriate service entitlements and use rights) a data card (11 in Fig. 1) including printed indicia descriptive of user information of at least one of information about a sender (card issuer) of said data and information about a recipient (cardholder) for said data (col. 6, ll. 23-35) and data information of at least one of credentials for authorization of a print job (the passenger card system uses corresponding application codes and cryptographic scheme to authenticate the cardholder to guarantee a secure information exchange, col. 3, ll. 25-40), credentials for authentication of a print job, information for decryption of a print job, and information for identification of a print job (application codes), said printed indicia comprising access credentials for access to said data;

reading said printed indicia to use said user information (such as identification of service recipient) and data information to verify said access credentials (col. 5, ll. 55-67 - col. 6, ll. 1-6, and col. 6, ll. 39-42); and

providing access to said data to said recipient in response to said verification (col. 6, ll. 23-30 discloses only a rightful card holder are entitle to a service after verification process of identifying the rightful card holders); and

printing (The Travel Center 2 provides the means to edit the contents of the passenger card, so as to represent a particular card configuration type. Such a center can be, for example, a ticket vending machine that is installed at an airport, a railroad station, or at a travel agency; as well as represent a provider of virtual services that are delivered via remote ticket offices, electronic shopping malls, or on-line travel support functions. It is inherent that the ticket vending machine a travel agency, or a remote ticket office has a means for printing a ticket information for a verification or proof of purchase purpose.) said data using any printer at any second location (Travel Center 2) in said network different than said first location (Card Station 1) in said network (Travel System Network).

Regarding claim 2, Sehr discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, where the data card is made of paper (the passenger card includes the equivalent of an electronic ticket, electronic money for payment, or security information for protecting the card content and identifying the rightful card holder. Sehr further discloses the way commercial banks clearing electronic payments made via their paper/plastic cards. This teaching shows a data card can be made of paper or plastic. In addition, it is not extremely difficult to find a type of data card that is made of paper (prepaid phone cards) or in combination of paper with laminating process).

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Regarding claims 9, 13 and 14, Sehr discloses a system for processing information in a network (Travel system Network) having a plurality of processors and having a plurality of printers (each Card Station 1 or Travel Center 2 has at least one computing device and peripherals connected within the system network) for a user (cardholder) of a printer for access to data (information related to the cardholder's itinerary and available services) to be printed by said printer comprising:

a processor located at a first location (Card Station 1; Fig. 1 shows a computer, which inherently comprises a processor) in said network capable of executing the following process:

reading indicia from a printed card (11) descriptive of user information of at least one of information about a sender (card issuer) of said data and information about a recipient (cardholder) for said data (col. 6, ll. 23-35) and data information of at least one of credentials for authorization of a print job (the passenger card system uses corresponding application codes and cryptographic scheme to authenticate the cardholder to guarantee a secure information exchange, col. 3, ll. 25-40), credentials for authentication of a print job, information for decryption of a print job, and information for identification of a print job (application codes), said indicia comprising access credentials for access to said data (col. 5, ll. 55-67 - col. 6, ll. 1-6, and col. 6, ll. 39-42);

verifying said access credential based on said indicia (col. 5, ll. 55-67 - col. 6, ll. 1-6, and col. 6, ll. 39-42); and

providing access to data in response to said verification (col. 6, ll. 23-30 discloses only a rightful card holder are entitle to a service after verification process of identifying the rightful card holders) of said access credentials for access to said data; and

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printing (The Travel Center 2 provides the means to edit the contents of the passenger card, so as to represent a particular card configuration type. Such a center can be, for example, a ticket vending machine that is installed at an airport, a railroad station, or at a travel agency; as well as represent a provider of virtual services that are delivered via remote ticket offices, electronic shopping malls, or on-line travel support functions. It is inherent that the ticket vending machine a travel agency, or a remote ticket office has a means for printing a ticket information for a verification or proof of purchase purpose.) of said data using any printer at any second location (Travel Center 2) in said network different than said first location (Card Station 1) in said network (Travel System Network).

Regarding claim 10, Sehr discloses the system as recited in rejected claim 9 stated above, where the data card is made of paper (the passenger card includes the equivalent of an electronic ticket, electronic money for payment, or security information for protecting the card content and identifying the rightful card holder. Sehr further discloses the way commercial banks clearing electronic payments made via their paper/plastic cards. This teaching shows a data card can be made of paper or plastic. In addition, it is not extremely difficult to find various types of data card made of paper (prepaid phone cards) or in combination of paper with laminating process).

Regarding claim 15, Sehr discloses the system as recited in rejected claim 9 stated above, where the data comprises a print job (the passenger card 11 can, therefore, input, store, process, output, and display data relating to tickets, passengers, and system entities; as well as to services rendered via the card and col. 6, ll. 26-31. The aforementioned service inherently may have a print job, which is an output form of data processed).

Regarding claim 16, Sehr discloses the system as recited in rejected claim 9 stated above, where said providing access to data in response to said verification comprises decrypting said data (col. 19, ll. 12-20).

Regarding claim 17, Sehr discloses a system for processing information for a user (cardholder) of a printer (11) for access to data (information related to the cardholder's itinerary and available services) to be printed by said printer comprising:

a computer located at a first location (Card Station 1; Fig. 1 shows a computer 14, which inherently comprises a processor) operably coupled to an external peripheral device (10, 12, 13 or 15) to form a network (via communication link 16 in a form of LAN and a global communication link 1234 in a form of WAN of Travel System Network) having a plurality of computers and having a plurality of printers connected thereto, said network being operable to:

receive (col. 7, ll. 25-26 discloses the Travel Center (2) provides the computerized means for the selection, payment and issuance of passenger cards; as well as for the storage in the cards of appropriate service entitlements and use rights) a data card (11 in Fig. 1) including printed indicia descriptive of user information of at least one of information about a sender (card issuer) of said data and information about a recipient (cardholder) for said data (col. 6, ll. 23-35) and data information of at least one of credentials for authorization of a print job (the passenger card system uses corresponding application codes and cryptographic scheme to authenticate the cardholder to guarantee a secure information exchange, col. 3, ll. 25-40), credentials for authentication of a print job, information for decryption of a print job, and information for identification of a print job (application codes), said indicia comprising access credentials for access to said data (col. 5, ll. 55-67 - col. 6, ll. 1-6, and col. 6, ll. 39-42);

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read said indicia to access the use information and data information for verifying said access credentials (col. 5, ll. 55-67 - col. 6, ll. 1-6, and col. 6, ll. 39-42); and

provide access to said data on the basis of said verifying said access credentials (col. 6, ll. 23-30 discloses only a rightful card holder are entitle to a service after verification process of identifying the rightful card holders); and

printing (The Travel Center 2 provides the means to edit the contents of the passenger card, so as to represent a particular card configuration type. Such a center can be, for example, a ticket vending machine that is installed at an airport, a railroad station, or at a travel agency; as well as represent a provider of virtual services that are delivered via remote ticket offices, electronic shopping malls, or on-line travel support functions. It is inherent that the ticket vending machine a travel agency, or a remote ticket office has a means for printing a ticket information for a verification or proof of purchase purpose.) of said data using any printer at any second location (Travel Center 2) in said network different than said first location (Card Station 1) in said network (Travel System Network).

Regarding claim 18, Sehr discloses the system as recited in rejected claim 17 stated above, where said peripheral device is a printer (15).

Regarding claim 19, Sehr discloses the system as recited in rejected claim 9 stated above, where said network (1) is further operable to decrypt said data (col. 19, ll. 12-20).

Regarding claim 20, Sehr discloses the system as recited in rejected claim 17 stated above, where the data card is made of paper (the passenger card includes the equivalent of an electronic ticket, electronic money for payment, or security information for protecting the card content and identifying the rightful card holder. Sehr further discloses the way commercial

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banks clearing electronic payments made via their paper/plastic cards. This teaching shows a data card can be made of paper or plastic. In addition, it is not extremely difficult to find a types of data card made of paper (prepaid phone cards) or in combination of paper with laminating process).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3-5, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sehr (USP 6,085,976) in view of Colgate, Jr. (USP 5,786,587).

The teachings of Sehr have been discussed above. Re claims 3-5, 11 and 12, Sehr discloses a data card comprises a user information and data information for receiving an access to a system after a successful authentication process.

Sehr, however, fails to teach an invisible barcode having a series of user customized symbols.

Colgate, Jr. teaches a data card comprises a machine-readable holographically generated off-axis bar code invisible to the naked eye and readable by a machine reader (col. 5, ll. 30-32). The invisible barcode adds security advantage reducing the possibility of forgery.

Thus, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further incorporate an invisible barcode only visible and readable by a

machine reader, as taught by Colgate, Jr. into the data card of Sehr for the purposes of enhancing the security advantage of the data card. Such modification undoubtedly increases the data card security by making it difficult for a counterfeiter to defeat the security feature of the card.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's Remarks filed on July 21, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In the Amendment and Remarks, the applicant stated that the Sehr does not describe, either expressly or inherently, each and every element of the claimed invention in as complete detail as is contained in the presently amended independent claims 1, 9, and 17 (page 6). The examiner respectfully disagrees and provides the teachings related to the added limitations from Sehr reference. The cited prior art reference is related to a travel system including a passenger card and a Travel System Network to use the card. As discussed previously in this Office Action, the passenger card includes the usages of the card information regarding a sender, a recipient, travel data, authentication process, and a printing process.

Therefore, it is believed that the cited prior art reference reads on the features of presently amended claims 1-20.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 703-308-6190. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri (5:30am-2:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-6893 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0530.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven S. Paik". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" being more prominent than the last name "Paik".

Steven S. Paik
Examiner
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ssp
August 13, 2003